

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In response to an order from a user, a new expendable container is supplied in exchange for an expendable container possessed by the user. Price for ink supply is determined based on expendable-related information that indicates at least the model of the expendable container possessed by the user, thereby promoting refilling and recycling of expendable containers. Price can be discounted if there is remaining ink, whereby discarding of ink can be discouraged, thus contributing to protection of the environment.